



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2 NAVY ANNEX
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MCO 1650.43
MPO-20
23 Jun 2001

MARINE CORPS ORDER 1650.43

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps
To: Distribution List

Subj: MARINE CORPS MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR AND STAFF
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER (SNCO) MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 1650.1

1. Situation. Marine musicians have served our Corps in peace and war since 1775, helping to preserve the history and traditions of our nation and our Corps. Recognition of the contributions that Marine musicians make to their units and to our Corps is fitting and important.

2. Mission. Establish a program that will permit the Commandant of the Marine Corps to annually honor one Sergeant or below as the Marine Musician of the Year and one SNCO as the SNCO Musician of the Year. Time the annual selection of the honorees to permit them to be honored in conjunction with the Marine Corps Musical Unit Leaders Conference.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. It is the intent of the Commandant of the Marine Corps to motivate musicians, recognize individual achievement, recognize teamwork, and emphasize the importance of musicians to the Marine Corps.

(2) Concept of Operations. Marines will be nominated for these awards by their commands. Nominated Marines will submit an audio recording displaying their technical abilities. A selection board will determine the recipients of these awards based on technical and military proficiency. The Marine Corps Musician of the Year and the Marine Corps SNCO Musician of the Year will receive a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal to be presented by the Commandant of the Marine Corps or a

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designated representative during the annual Marine Corps Musical Unit Leader's Conference.

b. Subordinate Element Missions

(1) The following commands will nominate one musician for each award:

Commanding General, Marine Forces Pacific
Commanding General, Marine Forces Reserve
Commanding General, III Marine Expeditionary Force
Commanding General, 1st Marine Division
Commanding General, 2d Marine Division
Commanding General, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing
Commanding General, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing
Commanding General, Eastern Recruiting Region/Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island
Commanding General, Western Recruiting Region/Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego
Commanding General, Marine Air-Ground Task Force
Training Command, Twentynine Palms
Commanding General, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany
Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Quantico

(2) Commanding Officer, Marine Barracks, Washington, DC, will nominate two musicians for each award.

(3) The following commands may nominate one musician for each award:

Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe
Commanding Officer, Armed Forces School of Music

(4) Director, Manpower Plans and Policy Division (MPO-20) will:

(a) Coordinate all aspects of the selection process.

(b) Appoint a seven-member Marine Musician Selection Board consisting of the Head of Marine Corps Music as President, Enlisted Assistant of Marine Corps Music, Marine Corps Recruiting Command Musician Procurement Supervisor, one officer and one SNCO from the Marine Band, and one officer and one SNCO selected at large.

(5) Marine Musician Selection Board

(a) The Selection Board will select one nominee as the Marine Corps Musician of the Year and one nominee as the Marine Corps SNCO Musician of the Year.

(b) The Selection Board will base its selection on the nomination package, current information available in the Official Military Personnel File, the Master Brief Sheet, the Marine Corps Total Force System and the live recording.

c. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Nomination packages will include the local Band Officer's letter of recommendation highlighting the nominee's contribution to the unit, an OPNAV Form 1650 for a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (summary of action and proposed citation prepared in accordance with reference (a)), and an unedited live recording on audiocassette tape (digital preferred) or compact disk of a selection chosen at the Marine's discretion.

(2) The unedited live recording must be 3-7 minutes in length; selections for sergeants and below must be grade IV or higher, selections for SNCOs must be grade V or higher. Selection must have been recorded during the fiscal year for which the package was submitted. Musical accompaniment may be utilized if desired.

(3) Deadline for submission of nomination packages covering the previous fiscal year will be 30 October.

4. Administration and Logistics

a. All nominees not selected will receive a Certificate of Commendation signed by the Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. These awards will be sent to the respective commands for presentation at an appropriate ceremony.

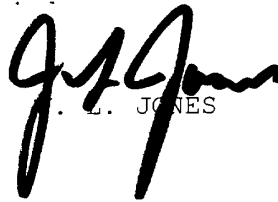
b. Director, Manpower Plans and Policy Division will forward selected recipients to the Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs for final approval.

c. Director, Manpower Plans and Policy Division will provide the temporary additional duty funding for the Marine Musician of the Year and the SNCO Musician of the Year to attend the Musical Leaders Conference.

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5. Command and Signal

- a. Signal. This Order is effective on date signed.
- b. Command. This Order is not applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.



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